

(b) Central Salt & Marine Chemicals Research Institute (CSMCRI), Bhavnagar is the only CSIR laboratory in Gujarat.

(c) Yes, Sir. In the Eleventh Five Year Plan, CSIR has a proposal to set up an Institute of Translational Research.

(d) No, Sir.

Distribution of Power by private companies

†*459. SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that private power companies would distribute power after purchasing it;

(b) if so, by when such system would be introduced and whether the task of purchasing power by 'Transco' would be completely discontinued;

(c) the per unit rate of power to be purchased and sold by such power companies; and

(d) whether those States with which agreement for power has been entered into previously would keep on supplying power as usual?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SHINDE): (a) to (d) Every distribution licensee is mandated to give supply of electricity on request to consumers in the area of his license in accordance with the provisions of the Electricity Act, 2003. To discharge this obligation, the licensee may need to procure electricity in addition to his own generation of electricity, if any.

The Act provides that the State Transmission Utility (STU), as also the Central Transmission Utility (CTU), shall not engage in the business of trading in electricity. However, during the transitional period, the authorization granted under the repealed laws (The Indian Electricity Act 1910, The Electricity supply Act 1948) may continue for a period not exceeding one year from the appointed date (*i.e.* from 10.6.2003). Under the Act, 'trading' means purchase of electricity for resale thereof. To remove the difficulties being faced by certain States, the Central Government had passed a statutory order under the provisions of the

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Electricity Act, 2003 authorizing STUs to engage in the activity of bulk purchase and sale of electricity to distribution companies only for a period of one year beyond 10.6.2004. National Electricity Policy and Tariff Policy notified by the Central Government provide for assignment of Power Purchase Agreement (PPAs) to the successor distribution companies.

However, as per the policy directions issued by the Government of NCT of Delhi at the time of privatization of distribution in 2002, Delhi Transco Ltd. (DTL) was entrusted the responsibility of procurement of electricity for distribution for a period up to 31.3.2007. Section 185(e) of the Electricity Act, 2003 protects the policy directions issued before the Act. In compliance with the provisions of the Electricity Act, 2003 and Tariff Policy, the Government of NCT of Delhi decided to transfer the business of procurement of electricity from TRANSCO Ltd. to the distribution companies. Delhi Electricity Regulatory Commission issued order dated on 31.3.07 assigning the PPAs to the discoms with effect from 1.4.07.

The Electricity Act provides that the State Electricity Regulatory Commission will regulate electricity purchase and procurement process of distribution licensees including the price at which electricity shall be procured from the generating companies or licensees or from other sources through agreement of purchase for power for distribution and supply within the State. The Act also provides that the determination of retail tariff is the function of the State Electricity Regulatory Commissions.

As such the per unit cost of power to be purchased and sold by distribution companies in various states will be as determined by the respective State Electricity Regulatory Commissions.

Sex education in CBSE curriculum

†*460. SHRI LALIT KISHORE CHATURVEDI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that sex education is being included in its curriculum by CBSE;

(b) whether it is also a fact that it is being opposed throughout the country and some States have banned the teaching of sex education;

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